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Secrets. H.—97—100,000—21-5-52.

Development (1954) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 5620

Dated 4-12-1954

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research Fruits and Vegetables Committee meeting - Fruit Specialist permitted to attend.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

From
M.S. Sivaraman Esq., I.C.S.,
Director of Agriculture,
Chepauk, Madras.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

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AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

From
Sri K.C. Naick, M.Sc.,
Fruit Specialist,
Kodur, P.O., Cuddapah District.

To
The Director of Agriculture,
Madras.

Roc.No. 1195-B-47 dated 19-12-1947.

Sir,

Sub:- Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Fruits and Vegetable Committee meeting - Report on -

Ref:- G.O.No. 5620-Development dated 4-12-1947 communicated with your Endorsement D.3.979-47 dated 8-12-1947.
2. Your D.Dis.D. 102-44-

I submit the following report of the meetings attended by me at New Delhi in December 1947. The first meeting I attended as a member was that of the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research held on 11-12-1947 and the second meeting which I attended as a Visitor was that of the All India Food Preservers Association held on 13-12-1947.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES COMMITTEE MEETING.

I. Items relating to all previoces in India:-

(1) Action taken on the General recommendation made by the Fruit and Fruit Products Committee at its meeting held in Oct. 46.

(2) (a) Cytogenetics of Mango and Bana summary of the Report for 1946-47.

(b) Schemes for controlling some insect pests of fruit frees in United Provinces - Summary of Report for 46-47.

(c) Citrus Fruit Scheme - C.P. and Berar.
(d) Fruit Research Scheme-Pihar-
(e) Citrus Fruit Scheme-Assam.
(f) Report of Citrus Scheme- Orissa for 46-47.
(g) South American Potato Scheme-Empire Potato Collection-Report for 45-46.
(h) Potato Breeding Scheme North India -
(i) Report of Seed Potato Certification Scheme 46-47.
(j) Report of the Scheme for Multiplication of Seed Potatoes.

(3) Mango Necrosis scheme, Lucknow-Summary of Report for 46-47.
(4) Scheme on Citrus Die-back-C.P. and Berar and Orissa.
(5) Report of the Scheme for Research on Citrus Problesms in Bihar, for 46-47.
(6) Report of Orange Research Scheme-Coorg-for 46-47.
(7) Report on work on Pests of Stored Potatos in Bihar for 46-47.
(8) Genetical investigation of Banana-New Scheme-Calcutta University.
(9) Research Scheme on citrus - C.P. and Berar.
(10) South American Potato Scheme Extension.
(11) Scheme on control of Ring-Disease of Potato - United Provinces - New Scheme.

II. Subjects concerning Madras only:-

(1) Summary of Annual eport for 1946-47 - Fruit Research station Kodur -
(2) Scheme for the appointment of Mycological and Entomological staff at the Madras Fruit Research Station, Kodur.

III. Contribution made by the Undersigned:- I actively participated in the discussion on each and every subject on the agenda. In almost all cases the decisions of the committee represented the opinion. I had put forward before the Committee in so far as the items relating to fruits are concerned. In particular, I was responsible . . .

to convince the Committee to decide against the new scheme submitted by the Calcutta University for the Genetical Investigation of Banana, on the plea that it would prejudice the interests of the Banana Scheme submitted by the Madras Government. I was not, however above to prevent its recommendation that the staff now working at Calcutta on banana should be absorbed in the Banana Scheme to be worked at Madras.

Regarding the subject concerning Madras only, I explained in great details the materials and methods of some of our trials, in response to the several queries of a visitor. I also explained in detail to the Chairman of the Committee the various methods adopted by us in this Province to pass on the results of our research work to the Public. Dispite my contention that it would not be advisable to recommend a higher start to the Mycological and and Entomological Assistants, the Committee decided that the higher start should be given to attract men with higher qualification and experience.

IV. Conclusions Arrived at:-

I. (1) The Committee noted the action taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Food Ministry in the matter of improving transportation facilities for fresh fruits and urged that the matter should be furtner pursued and expedited.

(2) The Committee reviewed the report of work done under the following schemes and recommended their adoption.

(a) Cyto-genetic Scheme of Mango and Banana at Calcutta.
(b) Citrus Scheme for controlling some insect pest in U.P.
(c) Citrus Fruit Research Scheme of C.P.
(d) Fruit Research Scheme of Bihar.
(e) Fruit Research Scheme of Assam.
(f) Fruit Research Scheme of Orissa.
(g) South American Potato Scheme - Empire Potato Collection.
(h) Potato Breeding Scheme for North India.
(i) Seed Potato Certification Scheme.
(j) Scheme for the Multiplication of Seed Potatos.

(3) The Committee felt that the Mango Necrosis scheme of the Lucknow University has not yielded any practical results and that the programme required revision.

(4) Reviewing the work done under the scheme on Citrus Die-back the Committees suggested that a sub-committee be appointed to compile and analyse the data so far recorded in all provinces and suggest ways and means to tackle the problems on an All India basis.

(5) The Committee did not think that the surveys of Citrus Problems in Bihar would yield useful results for wide application nor would the observation that were being collected be accurate and it was therefore recommended that it was unnecessary to have a separate scheme for this purpose.

(6) The Committee found nothing in the report of the Coorg Orange Scheme too comment upon. The report was very defective and incomplete.

(7) Almost the same remarks as above were also made by the Committee on the report of work on pests of stored potatos in Bihar.

(8) The Committee examined the new Scheme submitted by the Calcutta University for genetical investigation of banana and decided that in view of the proposed establishment of All India Banana Research Station in Madras, which had already been sanctioned by the Advisory Board, it was unnecessary to consider any such fresh schemes on the subject. It was felt that the staff working so far on the genetical investigation of banana should be absorbed in the new All-India Banana Research Scheme as far as possible.

(9) The Committee recommended that extension applied for by the Central Provinces and Berar for their Citrus scheme might be granted. The Committee also opened that there was no object-

to grow only one kind of intercrop in any individual experimental area.

(10) The Committee also agreed that the financial contribution should be continued to the South American Potato Scheme. The committee also considered that it will be very useful to depute three potato workers to Cambridge

(11) The Committee did not approve the United Provinces Scheme on the control of ring disease of potatoes they thought the fundamental work must first be done in the central potato Institute.

(12) The non-official members suggested that the Province should be invited to submit schemes for the improvement of vegetables,. The Committee endorsed the suggestion.

II. Subjects Concerning Madras only.

(1) The Committee recommended that the report of the Fruit Reseach Station, Kodur be adopted. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the successful results obtained by the station had been passed on to thepublic in the form of popular literature. The Committee added that work on hybridization on mango should be pursued on a mor extensive scale than before with a view to develop varieties fit for canning, for long distance transport and for storage. It was recommended that necessary extra facilities shouldbe provided for such work.

(2) The scheme submitted by Madras for the appointment of Mycological and Engomological staff at the fruit Research Station, Kodur was recommended by the Committee for sanction for the full period sought for. The Committee however, felt that men of high qualifications and experimence should be appointed, if necessary by giving them a higher starting pay in the scale provided in the scheme. The Committee also recommended the appointment of one Physiological Assistant to tackle the problems of deficiency diseases. Regarding the financial implication of the scheme the Committee recommanded that the Provincial Government should bear all the non-recurring expenditure, which the recurring expenditure was to be shared on a 50% basis. The Committee felt that the work was ver very important and the scheme should therefore, be favourably considered.

MEETING OF THE ALL-INDIA FOOD PRESERVERS ASSOCIATION.

This Meeting was intended mainly to bring about an exchange of ideas between the Fruit Preservers and Government Representatives and partly to transact some routine matters pertaining to the Association. Some discussion also occurred as to the minimum economic unit for a fruit canning or a preservation factory. The concensus of opinion was that a factory with a turn over of five tons finished goods should be considered as the minimum economic unit. On the question of sugar supply to fruit canning factories the meeting appealed to the Provincial Government that the sugar stocks held by them in trust in favour of factories should be distributed, and that the pending quotas of sugars (i.e. the allotments made for the last four months in 1947) should be made available to the fruit canning factories at the old prices. The canners suggested that sugar for distribution to factories may either be from the existing stocks with Civil Supplies or from the 9 9 lakhs bags of sugar frozen by the Government.

The meeting also complained that Pakistan was importing large stocks of canned and preserved fruits from foreign counties and these might infiltrate to India thus nullifying the protective duties. A higher control of imports especially after the present stand-still agreement lapses on 31-3-1947, was suggested by the Committee.

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Fruit Specialist.

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Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Abstract

Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Fruits and Vegetable Committee meeting - Fruit specialist - Permitted to attend.

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